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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
GROUP 1711  
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q78821

Yoshihiro KATSUMATA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/734,167

Group Art Unit: 1711

Confirmation No.: 2113

Examiner: Melanie D. Bissett (parent)

Filed: December 15, 2003

For: INK WASTAGE ABSORBER AND INK SUPPORTER

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

**MAIL STOP AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 29, 2005, please consider the remarks as submitted herewith on the accompanying pages.

**REMARKS**

Claims 17-22 and 24-30 are pending in the application.

Claims 17-21 and 25-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Haruta et al. ("Haruta") in view of Mochizuki et al. ("Mochizuki").

Claims 22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Haruta et al. in view of Mochizuki et al. as applied to claims 17-21 and 25-26 above, and further in view of JP '466 Konica Corp. ("Konica").